

[7th February 1925]

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" With reference to clause (a), will the Government be pleased to make an enquiry into the matter ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I do not think there is any necessity to make any special enquiry having regard to the proposal to revive the officers to certain extent. "

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" May I know when this revival will take place ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" As soon as it is practicable to get through the legislation for that purpose. "

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" May I know whether the same old officers will be restored ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I cannot guarantee that. "

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" In such a case, is it not necessary to make an enquiry and see whether the Nadar village munsifs are excluded ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Under the circumstances stated I do not think so, Sir. "

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" May I know whether the Bill is ready for introduction ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" It is almost ready. "

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—" What is the proposal with reference to these officers ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" How does that arise out of this question, Sir ? "

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—" The hon. Member said that the Bill is ready, or almost ready for introduction. Certainly Government ought to know their proposals, whether they are going to reinstate the old officers or appoint new men for the villages ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I have nothing to add to my former answer. "

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

Manner of election of members of taluk boards to district boards.

* 209 Q.—Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) (i) whether the rules framed under the Local Boards Act of 1920 and revised under G.O. Notification of May 1921 are obligatory on the presidents of taluk boards in the matter of electing members of such boards to the district boards ;

(ii) whether presidents of taluk boards are not bound to report fully to the Government or any other authority as to the manner in which such elections are held while reporting the results ;

(b) (i) whether the Government are aware that on 26th November 1924 the President of the Mangalore Taluk Board held an election to elect two members from the said board to the District Board of South Kanara ;

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(ii) whether the Government are aware that the President of the Mangalore Taluk Board contravened rule 7 of the aforesaid rules by supplying, to members who wished to vote, blank slips of paper without printing or typing the names of all taluk board members and asking the members to write out with their hand on the said slips the names of the candidates whom they wished to vote for ;

(c) (i) whether the Government are aware that the said president misread or never read out rule 9 of the said rules to the meeting and misrepresented that candidates for election were not entitled to vote ;

(ii) whether it is not a fact that owing to such misrepresentation of the president the candidates for election never voted at all ;

(d) whether the Government have any objection to ascertain whether such departures have been made by presidents of other taluk boards in the Presidency ; and

(e) in case of any such instances being found, whether the Government have any objection to call the attention of the presidents concerned to the gravity of the matter and to issue a Government Order urging upon a strict observance of such rules ?

A.--(a) (i) The answer is in the affirmative.

(ii) The answer is in the negative.

(b) & (c) The Government have no information. If the rules were contravened in the course of the election, the remedy lies in the presentation of a petition to the Civil Court in accordance with the rules framed by Government in that behalf.

(d) & (e) The Government do not consider that any useful purpose would be served by such an enquiry.

MR. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“In view of the serious allegations, may I know whether the Government have considered the desirability of dealing with these questions departmentally ?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“Sir, the suggestion will be considered.”

British Empire Exhibition.

Participation in the Wembley Exhibition of 1925.

*210 Q.—RAI BAHADUR T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether this Government intend—

(a) to partake in the continuance of the Wembley Exhibition in London in 1925 ;

(b) to contribute towards the expenditure thereof ;

(c) to depute the same or other officers to proceed to London for the purpose ; and

(d) to place on the table of this House the report, if any, of the officers concerned concerning the activities and the achievements of the Madras Court in the last year's exhibition ?

A.—(a) (b) & (c) No such proposals have as yet been considered,

(d) Yes.